

WEDNESDAY

MAY 2, 2007

EAGLE TIMES

## Assistant nursing director resigns

By AARON ALDRIDGE  
Staff Writer

The assistant nursing director at the Sullivan County Nursing Home resigned Tuesday amid allegations of an adversarial relationship between staff and management. She alleged a labor union was attempting to run the facility.

April Bartley has worked at the facility for the last year. Her resignation was

accepted "with regret" by the Sullivan County Commissioners during their meeting on Tuesday.

"Staff miss scheduled resident care time attending union events," Bartley wrote in her resignation. "And when they are at work, spend a lot of time discussing the next grievance or arbitration. In my opinion, the union essentially runs, or at least tries very hard to run, this facility."

See RESIGNATION - Page A8

## RESIGNATION

FROM PAGE A1

Administrator Scott Wojtkiewicz had no comment regarding the allegations and forwarded the resignation to the commissioners.

"With the union, it takes one or two disgruntled staff to wreak havoc on any plans that may have taken many months and labor hours to create," Bartley wrote. "There is an adversarial relationship between staff and management that results from a way too liberal union contract that allows staff to essentially do whatever they want with very little recourse available to supervisors."

Bartley began her letter by praising the management team at the nursing home calling them "one of the best I have encountered." She also said director of nursing Heidi Smith and Wojtkiewicz complement one another with their management styles.

She concluded that her decision to leave was not easy. She wrote that she believes the facility "has the potential to be excellent."

A replacement assistant nursing director has not been named.